REGINA metro®

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

Rah-Rah take it to the next level

Local indie rockers have the Junos' attention PAGE 8

THREE TO WATCH IN SOCHI

• **11 a.m.** It begins! Sidney Crosby and the rest of Team Canada open their Olympic title defence against Norway.

• **6:05 a.m.** Marianne St-Gelais — who won silver in Vancouver — could be racing for another medal at the short track in the women's 500-metres.

• **8 a.m.** Christine Nesbitt races in the women's 1,000-metres. She's a three-time world champion, and the reigning Olympic champion in that distance.

GREG DOWNS/FOR METRO

Skate With Us!
Downtown at the Victoria Park Ice Rink
Borrow skates and enjoy hot cocoa at our warming hut:
Weekdays — during lunch, and evenings 5pm-8pm
Weekends — 11am-8pm
#VicParkRink
(306) 359-7541
REGINADOWNTOWN.CA

STORM TROOPER

A man braces against the cold wind and blowing snow on Wednesday in central Regina, as an "Alberta clipper" storm quickly and forcefully hit the Queen City and areas across southern Saskatchewan. The storm was expected to bring between 10 and 15 centimetres of snow to the region before moving east into Manitoba by Thursday morning. Story, page 2. SARAH TAGUIAM/METRO

Wall blasts Ottawa after immigrant program scrapped

Federal budget casualty. 'It works very well' in Saskatchewan, premier says of Immigrant Investor Program cut for all provinces except Que.

Premier Brad Wall is frustrated that the federal government is scrapping the Immigrant Investor Program for Saskatchewan and all other provinces, except Quebec.

Wall said on Wednesday that he knows Ottawa had concerns about whether the program was functioning properly.

But the premier said it's been successful in Saskatchewan and has attracted more than $160 million in investments used to build homes during a housing shortage.

"For Pete's sake," Wall told reporters in Regina. "I understand they have to make decisions, if they don't think programs are being used correctly. I get that. We're doing the same thing. We're having budget finalization right now.

"But in order to come to that conclusion, you need to find out what's going on in places like Saskatchewan, before you decide to cut a program based on the fact that you don't think it's working. And had they done that, I think they would see that it works very well here. We're being responsible with the dollars and with the principles of the program and now we want to be treated the same as the province of Quebec."

The program offered permanent resident visas to investors with business experience, a net worth of at least $1.6 million and an investment of $800,000. But it had come under scrutiny for allowing people to essentially buy their way into Canada.

The federal government put a moratorium on the program in 2012, and talked about revamping it. It was cancelled in Tuesday's federal budget.

Federal Immigration Minister Chris Alexander said in a news release that the program provided limited economic benefit to Canada. He said the government will replace it with other pilot programs that ensure immigrants who come to Canada "deliver meaningful benefits" to the economy.

Quebec's immigrant investor program operates separately from the rest of the country and remains in effect.

That's what irks Wall.

The premier said it's not acceptable for Ottawa to take one set of actions for the rest of Canada and a separate one for Quebec.

"Frankly, if we could get the same deal as Quebec, we would pursue it and ... I think we'll ask for that."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

mazda
FUEL-EFFICIENT NO LONGER MEANS DRIVING-DEFICIENT.
THE ALL-NEW 2014 MAZDA CX-5
5.7 L/100 km highway 50mpg
7.8 L/100 km city 36mpg
STARTING AT $22,995
NO PAYMENTS 'TIL SPRING 2014
REGINA MAZDA 600 BROAD STREET 543-3345 WWW.REGINAMAZDA.COM

NEWS

Southern, central Saskatchewan slammed by sudden snowstorm

'Alberta clipper'. 60-70 km/h winds had a bigger impact than the expected 10-15 cm of snow, meteorologist says

ROSS ROMANIUK
ross.romaniuk@metronews.ca

Two men make the best of the blizzard-like conditions on Wednesday on Broad Street in Regina, as traffic downtown is slowed by the snowy mess. SARAH TAGUIAM/METRO

The warning came on Wednesday, and the weather wallop wasn't far behind.

Southern and central Saskatchewan have found out the hard way that heavy snow and blustery conditions are far from finished this winter, as a fast-moving storm slammed the province on its way in from the west.

The "Alberta clipper" was expected to dump 10 to 15 centimetres across the region after it struck around mid-day.

"The bigger impact, though, right now is from the wind," Chris Scott, chief meteorologist with the Weather Network, told Metro from Oakville, Ont., as the gusts of 60 to 70 km/h whipped the snow onto streets and highways across what he called "the central and southern stripe" of Saskatchewan.

"That would take you from almost the Alberta border, west of Saskatoon ... along and south of the Yellowhead in central Saskatchewan, then right down toward the Moosomin area in the southeast. That would include the city of Regina."

Named in part after high-speed clipper ships, the storm is the kind that tapers off almost as fast as it blows in.

The bad news, seen on Wednesday, is that its precipitation and wind wreak havoc while they're around.

RCMP issued highway advisories as collisions, including a six-vehicle pileup causing several injuries on the Trans-Canada west of Regina, resulted from poor visibility.

Regina police urged motorists to "reconsider travel plans" during the storm, while Saskatoon municipal officials told the public that they're ready for what comes.

"We have crews ready. They are out in the field right now on the streets with the sanding and salting crews, and grader crews are ready to go as soon as we get accumulations to the point where we can make some effective use of those," said Pat Hyde, Saskatoon's public works director.

"We also have contractor crews that are ready to roll. We have those already lined up for winter events and snowstorms such as this." WITH FILES FROM JACOB MORGAN/METRO SASKATOON

Group wants second opinion on Connaught school

Rene Dumont, of Save Our Connaught Heritage SARAH TAGUIAM/METRO

A Regina heritage group is blasting a report recommending that Connaught Community School be shut down because of irreparable structural problems.

The engineering report, released at a Regina Public Schools board meeting on Tuesday night, recommends that the 102-year-old building be closed after this school year because it's "at the end of its safe and useful life."

The Cathedral-area structure's foundation, according to JC Kenyon Engineering, is unsound and deteriorating.

The Save Our Connaught Heritage (SOCH) group, however, is calling the report bogus.

"It was kind of a shock hearing that," SOCH chairman Rene Dumont said on Wednesday.

"The division hired a firm that wants to build a new school for them. We consulted an expert before, and we're told the building just needs maintenance."

The public division wants to examine options "if we are to continue to provide safe and worry-free education for students of that school community," Julie McRae, director of education, said in a news release.

Dumont's group has lobbied to bring in building conservationists to inspect the structure.

"And once they say the school is unsafe," he said, "then fine — let's plan a new school."

If a decision is made to close the school, division staff will determine where its 298 students are transferred to. SARAH TAGUIAM/METRO

Financial support needed

Regina Humane Society explains shelter plans to city hall

The Regina Humane Society (RHS) is seeking financial support from city hall to build a multi-million-dollar animal control and shelter facility to replace its existing complex.

Executive director Lisa Koch presented the group's preliminary plans for the facility to city council's executive committee on Wednesday, framing the discussion as a kick-off to formal negotiations for the project.

"We've done a considerable amount of work on this, and we're really ready to move forward on the formal building design portion of the project," Koch told reporters following the meeting.

Based on similar projects elsewhere in Canada, she said the facility would probably cost about $14 million.

It would replace the group's more than 30-year-old building on Regina's northern outskirts. METRO

Business challenges

Sask. sends cabinet ministers to deal with grain backlog

Premier Brad Wall has appointed a provincial delegation to meet with grain companies in the hopes of clearing up a grain backlog.

Agriculture Minister Lyle Stewart, Economy Minister Bill Boyd, Highways and Infrastructure Minister Don McMorris and MLA Scott Moe are to meet with the companies this week.

They plan to talk about the challenges the businesses face in moving grain and come up with potential solutions.

There will be meetings with rail companies to talk about measures to clear the backlog. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Edmonton. Backpack offers grieving mother answers in son's suicide

Jan Thorpe finally has some answers about her son's death.

Jonathan Langille's backpack was returned to his mother Tuesday, less than a week after the 19-year-old was killed after stepping off the platform in front of an LRT train at Coliseum Station in Edmonton.

Following the accident, Thorpe made a public plea for help finding the backpack, which had been picked up by a bystander who watched as Langille took his own life.

"The girl who took it called us last night," said Thorpe. "She was very sorry about what happened."

In the backpack, Thorpe said, Langille left his journal, which included information about why he took his own life.

"He said he was overwhelmed," she said.

Thorpe said the family doesn't plan on pressing charges against the woman, who told Thorpe she was using drugs at the time she took the backpack. Thorpe said she hopes the young woman is able to get some help.

Jonathan Langille FACEBOOK

"Life is very short; never take anyone for granted," Thorpe said. "Jonathan showed no signs. If you feel like you are in a dark place, talk to somebody."

LEAH GERMAIN/METRO IN EDMONTON

Income splitting exposes rift among Conservatives

Tensions. Powerful Tory ministers make contradictory statements on Harper campaign promise — but who spoke out of turn?

Two of the most powerful men in the Conservative cabinet have openly contradicted one another on a key campaign promise — a split that speaks to the different ideologies and allegiances in the Tory caucus.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty started the ball rolling Wednesday by candidly questioning the wisdom of expanding income splitting for Canadian families.

During the 2011 election, Prime Minister Stephen Harper promised to bring in the measure once the federal books were balanced. Allowing couples with children to split their income would mean parents could pool their income together in order to qualify for a lower tax bracket.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty gestures during question period in the House of Commons in Ottawa on Wednesday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"I would pay down public debt and reduce taxes more, myself, but I am only one person," Flaherty said in a post-budget interview before the Ottawa Chamber of Commerce.

But Employment Minister Jason Kenney insisted the campaign promise would be kept, a sentiment echoed by Treasury Board President Tony Clement.

"We made a platform commitment to introduce income splitting when we get to a balanced budget; we'll get to a balanced budget next year, that's very clear," Kenney said.

So who spoke out of turn? Flaherty or Kenney?

One senior Conservative suggested Harper actually has his own reservations about income splitting. The Tory suggested social conservatives within the party would be more in favour of such a plan because it appeals to traditional families where only one parent works.

Other Conservatives speculated that Flaherty is feeling free to speak his mind because he has one foot out the door.

There have been tensions between Flaherty and Kenney recently over Toronto Mayor Rob Ford. Flaherty is a friend of Ford's, and reacted angrily when Kenney called on Ford to step down.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Terror case. Reliability of audio surveillance transcript questioned

A lawyer for accused terrorist Khurram Syed Sher pressed a police detective Wednesday on the reliability of a transcript of a key meeting between Sher and two alleged co-conspirators.

In Ontario Superior Court, defence lawyer Michael Edelson peppered Det. Mireille Clement with questions about how she prepared the transcription from secret audio surveillance of a discussion at an Ottawa home.

During the July 20, 2010, meeting, Sher seems to express a desire to arrange overseas tactical training through a Pakistani man who claimed to be with the Taliban.

Clement was part of an Integrated National Security Enforcement Team that conducted extensive surveillance of the purported plotters.

The Crown says the homegrown group was dedicated to supporting violent jihad by whatever means possible.

Federal lawyer Jason Wakely said during opening arguments this week that the three men agreed to raise money, send cash abroad, take paramilitary training, make and use explosives, and scout targets in Canada.

Sher, 31, has pleaded not guilty to a charge of conspiring to facilitate terrorism.

After studying in Montreal, he worked as an anatomical pathologist at St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital in St. Thomas, Ont., south of London.

The RCMP was informed of the case in September 2009 through a formal disclosure letter from the Canadian Security Intelligence Service.

A publication ban on certain aspects of the file limits what can be reported during the trial.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Who's the boss?

The Crown played six segments of audio culled from surveillance of the 2010 meeting.

- At one point, the three men on the recording discuss the best means of choosing a group leader, suggesting they pick a name from a hat or even spin a bottle.

Rail safety

Industry group calls for greater safeguards

It's only been a few weeks since Canadian policymakers announced safety changes to rail cars, but elements within the industry already want to go further.

A U.S. industry association is recommending all new oil-carrying trains be equipped with a puncture-proof metal shell, taller shields and thermal insulation. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Recommendation

Police should 'stop shouting' at the mentally ill

In encounters with the emotionally disturbed, police should focus on defusing situations through communication, a coroner's jury said Wednesday.

"If the (person) has failed to respond to standard initial police commands … train officers to stop shouting those commands and attempt different defusing communication strategies," the jury recommended.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Florida boy's killer executed

Juan Carlos Chavez. Murderer given lethal injection in Florida jail despite Supreme Court appeal

Juan Carlos Chavez THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A man has been executed in Florida for raping and killing a nine-year-old boy 18 years ago, a death that spurred the victim's parents to press nationwide for stronger sexual predator confinement laws.

Authorities say 46-year-old Juan Carlos Chavez was pronounced dead Wednesday night after a lethal injection at Florida State Prison.

Chavez abducted Jimmy Ryce at gunpoint after the boy got off a school bus on Sept. 11, 1995, in rural southwestern Miami-Dade County.

Last-minute appeals temporarily delayed Wednesday's planned execution as Chavez's most recent round of state and federal court appeals focused on claims that Florida's lethal injection procedure is unconstitutional, that he didn't get due process during clemency hearings and that he should have an execution stay to pursue additional appeals in the federal courts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lethal injection

Drug temporarily blocked

A federal judge late Wednesday temporarily blocked an Oklahoma compounding pharmacy from selling a drug to the Missouri Department of Corrections for use in an upcoming execution.

The restraining order was issued in a lawsuit filed a day earlier in U.S. District Court by Missouri death row inmate Michael Taylor. The lawsuit argued that several recent executions involving compounded pentobarbital show it will cause Taylor "inhumane pain."
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Second bout of winter storms takes its toll on U.S. South

A Georgia Department of Transportation sign warns drivers of winter weather as they travel a bleak section of Highway 141 on Wednesday in Norcross, Ga. The second wintry storm in two weeks to hit the normally balmy U.S. South encrusted highways, trees and power lines in ice, knocking out electricity to more than 350,000 homes and businesses. At least nine traffic deaths across the region were blamed on the treacherous weather. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Surveillance

Rand Paul sues Obama admin

Republican Sen. Rand Paul and a Tea Party backed group are suing the Obama administration over the National Security Agency's phone record collection policies. The lawsuit argues that the bulk collection program that's been in existence since 2006 violates the Constitution's Fourth Amendment right against unreasonable searches.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Germany

Dancing in a beer tent part of the job

A German teacher has won a case for a work-related injury she suffered when she fell off a bench while dancing in a beer tent on a school trip.

In a statement Wednesday the court argued it was "normal and socially appropriate" for beer tent visitors to dance on the benches and that the teacher would have unduly distanced herself from her students if she had refused to participate.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Classical music

Japan's 'Beethoven' not so deaf after all

The man once lauded as Japan's Beethoven said he can partially hear in a new disclosure Wednesday following the stunning revelation last week that his Hiroshima symphony and other famed musical compositions were ghost-written.

In a handwritten statement, released to the Japanese media through his lawyer, Mamoru Samuragochi said he had regained part of his hearing three years ago. He apologized for the scandal and for failing to explain to his fans sooner. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kentucky

Part of gay marriage ban struck down

A U.S. district judge concluded Wednesday that Kentucky must recognize same-sex marriages performed in other states, striking down part of the state's marriage ban that was approved by voters in 2004. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Work Prep Week!

5 Professional development workshops and classes February 24-28

Time Management Workshop: Partcipants are introduced to a new way of approaching tme and personal performance. Each person learns how to save time and increase output in every area of life. The process deals with both the practice and the psychology of time management.

Job Search Workshop: This workshop helps partcipants to develop personal employability marketing tools. This workshop is ideal for people interested in entering the job market, or are interested in looking to change jobs.

WHMIS: WHMIS stands for Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System. It is a nationwide system to provide informatiton on hazardous materials used in the workplace. This 1/2 day course will provide the atendees with basic informaton about WHMIS, such as: Labeling, Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) Worker Educaton. Exam to follow each class.

First Aid and CPR: This course prepares you to deal with the everyday bumps and scrapes of home and work as well as the skills needed to save a life. We believe that everyone should be prepared to respond in an emergency situaton.

Food Safe Level 1: FOODSAFE Level 1 is a food handling, sanitation and work safety course designed for front line food service workers such as cooks, servers, bussers, dishwashers, and deli workers. The course covers important food safety and worker safety information including foodborne illness, receiving and storing food, preparing food, serving food, cleaning and sanitizing.

Cost: Free with perfect attendance and punctuality

Very Limited Spaces Available!

acert adult centre for employment readiness & training

For more information and registration please call 306.791.6533 ext. 231 or email victoriaf@reginafoodbank.ca

Discussion. North Korean demands manage to stall high-level talks with South Korea

The highest-level talks between the rival Koreas in years ended late Wednesday with little progress because of North Korea's call for the delay of annual military drills between Seoul and Washington set for later this month, officials said.

Seoul officials said the meeting was requested by North Korea, which has launched a recent charm offensive after raising tensions last spring with repeated threats to fire nuclear-tipped missiles against Seoul and Washington.

Later this month, the two Koreas are to hold reunions of families separated since the 1950-53 Korean War. It would be the first such reunions in more than three years.

North Korea also demanded South Korea delay the annual military drills set to begin Feb. 24 with the United States until the end of the family reunions, which are scheduled to start Feb. 20 and end five days later, the statement said. South Korea refused, saying it cannot link a purely humanitarian matter to a military issue. The military drills, which Pyongyang claims are preparations for an invasion but the allies call routine, are to end in mid-April.

The statement said the Koreas agreed to continue to discuss the matters, but didn't say when the next meeting would be held. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

North Korean chief delegate Won Tong Yon, centre, walks with other delegates at the border village of Panmunjom, South Korea on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUMBER OF HAPPY COUPLES: 12

HE SAYS

John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

Normally I'd say Valentine's Day is a holiday that should be cut short like its decapitated namesake.

Normally I'd argue it's not a real holiday unless I'm earning time and a half.

Normally I'd suggest that the only reason Valentine's receives any attention at all is that it lands when the weather is barren and any real holidays are far away. It's like a stranger in a bar when the lights come on. Our time with it might be awkward and trashy, but we'll take what we can get.

But I won't say any of that because I have a girlfriend for the first Valentine's this decade. So — just in case she cares — Valentine's is a wonderful, splendiferous day (wheee!) and I can't wait to spend it with her in whatever reasonably priced restaurant she desires.

As a loving tribute to my return to coupledom, I offer this fragrant bouquet of information:

Valentine's Day By The Numbers:

1: The loneliest number.

2: The least lonely number.

3: The soon-to-be-lonely-again number.

4: The polygam-est number.

Relationships

13,491,617: Number of Canadians who would laugh in your face if you asked them out right now.

12: Happy couples.

700: Percentage spike in the crime rate since same-sex couples were allowed to marry and society crumbled.

1.3: Median number of children it will take to salvage your crumbling relationship.

580,000: Number of times someone will say, "I don't know, what do you wanna do?" on Valentine's Day (average three per couple).

170: Number of guys pretending they like Michael Bublé at any given moment.

5: Number of days after Valentine's you can wait before dumping your partner, guilt-free.

0: Number of unrequited loves thinking about you right now.

Gifts

$356: Minimum amount your partner will spend on you if they really love you.

32: Number of insect larvae legally permitted in the chocolates you're about to receive.

15: Number of years until corporations automatically deduct a minimum $100 directly from your chequing account as part of a Mandatory Incidental Love Fee, or MILF.

8,732: Number of relationships that will spark with the heat of a thousand suns thanks to the gift of a heart-shaped doughnut.

60,000: Approximate number of bees killed annually for Bee Mine? card industry.

$1.4 billion: Value of all Valentine's cards purchased in North America.

1.4 seconds: Average time spent glancing at card.

14,541: Number of Canadians unemployed in the candy, floral and gift card business because of you and your friends' cynical attitudes.

Fewer than 12: Number of minutes I spent on research.

ZOOM

Did Russia get this wrong?

COURTESY GREG WYSHYNSKI/YAHOO SPORTS

Rings' colours not tied to continents

No, the different-coloured Olympic rings don't correspond to specific continents.

But you'd be forgiven for thinking differently if you're going to or from Sochi's airport.

Five enormous concrete sculptures of the rings welcome visitors, each labelled in bold letters, in Russian and English, with the name of a continent: Africa, Asia, Australia (pictured), Europe, and the Americas.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In actuality...

- International Olympic Committee spokesman Mark Adams says "the rings are not assigned to each continent."
- When Pierre de Coubertin, considered the founder of the modern Olympics, designed the rings a century ago, he chose black, red, yellow, green and blue because every flag in the world bore at least one of those colours, according to the Olympic Museum.

Clickbait

HANNAH ZITNER
hannah.zitner@metronews.ca

JOSH SEMANS/FLICKR

So maybe those piano or violin lessons in elementary school didn't exactly stick, but surely you remember a scale or two. Test your musical memory, or just have fun making music with these apps that turn your phone into a handheld musical "instrument." Warning: This will annoy pretty much anyone in earshot and you will have way more fun creating "songs" than anyone will have listening to them.

Shaker:

Turn your phone into a pocket percussion centre. From the triangle to the tambourine to the tam tam, this free iTunes app has the drum section of your band covered.

Harmonica:

Both Apple and Android have their eyes on the handheld harmonica (oh wait, real ones are also handheld), but the Android version lets users get up close with their phones and play with their mouth (option for hands too, if you don't trust where your phone's been).

Virtuoso Piano 3:

Just like riding a bike, once you learn to play Heart and Soul you never forget. Or so no one's ever said. Test the theory and tickle the ivories on your phone.

Twitter

@metropicks asked: Canada's men's hockey team plays Norway Thursday. Should fighting be allowed in Olympic hockey?

@CALanuza: Yes, it brings excitement to the game; Remember this guys are pro athletes.. #Sochi2014 #yyc

@Dweller15: off course, what kind of question is it? What a hokey without fight?

@cndneh: why should fighting be allowed at all?

@Mr_B_Robertson: No. The greater the threat of injury to NHL players, the greater the chance the NHL won't let its players go the Olympics.

@kkjohal769: NO!!fighting is not necessary send the right message to our young people

@larrington: with fighting allowed, world does not take NHL ice hockey seriously as a sport; it's just entertainment.

@MainStPoodle: Yes. And growling, chasing and biting.

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:
Send us your comments: reginaletters@metronews.ca

metro

President Bill McDonald • **Vice-President & Group Publisher, Metro Western Canada** Steve Shrout • **Editor-in-Chief** Charlotte Empey • **Deputy Editor** Fernando Carneiro • **National Deputy Editor, Digital** Quin Parker • **Managing Editor, Regina** Tara Campbell • **Managing Editor, News & Business** Amber Shortt • **Managing Editor, Life & Entertainment** Dean Lisk • **Sales Manager** Kim Kintzle • **Distribution Manager:** Darryl Hobbins • **Vice-President, Sales and Business Development** Tracy Day • **Vice-President, Creative and Marketing Services** Jeff Smith • **Vice-President, Finance** Phil Jameson **METRO REGINA** 1916 Dewdney Avenue Regina, SK S4R 1G9• **Telephone:** 306-584-2025 • **Toll free:** 1-877-895-7194 • **Fax:** 1-888-243-9726 • **Advertising:** adinforegina@metronews.ca • **Distribution:** regina_distribution@metronews.ca • **News tips:** regina@metronews.ca • **Letters to the Editor:** reginaletters@metronews.ca

Market Minute

DOLLAR 90.93¢ (+ 0.16¢)

TSX 13,900.49 (+ 19.50)

OIL $100.37 US (+$0.43)

GOLD $1,295 US (+$5.20)

Natural gas: $4.85 US (-$0.09)
Dow Jones: 15,963.94 (-30.83)

U.S.-Canada relations

Time to prep for post-Obama era, says Jim Prentice

It's high time Canada started looking beyond the Obama era if it wants to push economic integration with the United States to a new level, says former Conservative Cabinet Minister Jim Prentice.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Black Wednesday?

Bitcoin's value drops below $630

A freeze on bitcoin withdrawals imposed by three major exchanges won't cause any long-term harm to the digital currency's credibility, attendees at a Bitcoin conference said. Bitcoin's value, which topped $1,100 US in November, dropped below $630 US Wednesday after news of the freeze.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fourth-quarter results

Air Canada shares hit turbulence

Air Canada vowed it won't be thrown off course in 2014 even though its shares went into a tailspin Wednesday after severe weather and a weaker dollar hurt fourth-quarter results and promised to inflict more pain in the new year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mexican firm to acquire Canada Bread for $1.83B

That's a lot of dough. Maple Leaf bakes up tasty deal to off-load division to baking giant Grupo Bimbo

Canada Bread has struck an agreement to be acquired by one of the world's largest bread companies in a transaction valued at $1.83 billion.

Grupo Bimbo, based in Mexico, said Wednesday it will buy Canada's dominant breadmaker with the support of Maple Leaf Foods, which owns a 90 per cent stake in the operations.

What Grupo Bimbo gains from buying Canada Bread is a position in the Canadian marketplace and the ownership of popular brands like Dempster's and Bon Matin.

"The company fits exactly within our strategic soft spot as a leader in its domestic market," Grupo Bimbo chief executive Daniel Servitje said in a conference call.

The transaction ends Maple Leaf Foods' pursuit of a buyer for the bakery division, which it announced last October.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Slicing off divisions

Maple Leaf Foods is in the midst of a restructuring plan to improve the profits of its overall business, which is primarily focused on meat products. It has already sold various divisions and hopes to complete the process by next year.

Bosnia. Unrest due in part to failed privatizations of state-owned companies

The recent violence in Bosnia, with scenes of burning government buildings and protesters pelting police with stones, has many root causes. One of them is the failed privatizations of state-owned companies.

When Bosnia abandoned communism about two decades ago, officials devised a plan that wouldn't mean mass layoffs for state workers. It was supposed to be a smooth transition after the 1992-1995 war that left 100,000 dead and devastated the country's infrastructure.

More than 80 per cent of privatizations have failed, becoming a core reason behind Bosnia's worst unrest since the end of the war. Many well-connected tycoons have swept into these companies, stripping them of their assets, declaring bankruptcy and leaving thousands without jobs or with minimal pay. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Bosnian protester sets a local government building on fire during protests in the Bosnian town of Tuzla last week. AMEL EMRIC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stuck in a RUT?

Tired of not having trained, qualified employees?

Let us help you out!!

REGINA Trades & Skills CENTRE

Powered by People, Driven by Performance, Committed to Results

Contact us at 306-337-0533

RRSP doesn't have to be a four-letter word.

Relax. We† can help.

Call 1 866 747 8129,
visit pcfinancial.ca/rrsp,
or drop by an in-store pavilion[1] today.

[1] Visit pcf.pavilionlocation.com to find your nearest pavilion location.

®/™ PC, President's Choice, PC Financial and President's Choice Financial are registered trademarks of Loblaws Inc. CIBC is a licensee of the marks.

† President's Choice Financial personal banking services are provided by the direct banking division of CIBC. Banking services are not available in Quebec.

President's Choice FINANCIAL®

That's just good banking.

SCENE 2

Coming of age while the accolades start rolling in

Rah Rah. The alternative group is up for a Juno and has been recognized by the WCMAs

BACKSTAGE PASS
Jacob Morgan
regina@metronews.ca

Rah Rah is nominated for alternative album of the year at the 2014 Juno Awards. They're playing in their hometown, Regina, at the Exchange on Feb. 28 and in Saskatoon at Amigos on March 1. COURTESY CHRIS GRAHAM

Getting to the Juno Awards didn't happen overnight for Regina band Rah Rah.

Singer and guitarist Marshall Burns tells Metro that in 2012 when the group released The Poet's Dead — which is up for alternative album of the year — they were in a different place.

"We had been touring full time for four years or so and it starts to wear you out a little bit," said Burns. "Sleeping on floors and stuff starts to not be as fun as it was."

Burns first hit the road with Rah Rah at around 18. Now 25, he said the record deals, in part, are why artists continue creating after the thrill is gone.

The more things change...

"When we started out the goal was just to go play a show. And I don't know if it's changed that much. You just try to make records that you're proud of."

Singer and guitarist Marshall Burns of alternative group Rah Rah

"It's thinking a lot about what drives us to keep doing this (while) making no money, being away from our girlfriends and boyfriends ... and eating bad food," he said.

The coming of age theme is emphasized on the song 20s, said Burns, with the line: "I spent my 20s on rock 'n' roll. I'll spend my 30s feeling old."

But over the past year, Burns and the other five band members have received proper vindication for all their hard work as critical acclaim poured in for The Poet's Dead.

In June, Rah Rah was longlisted for the prestigious Polaris Music Prize. Then in October, it won independent album of the year at the Western Canadian Music Awards (WCMA).

"I'm sure the WCMAs and Polaris helped get the attention of some of the people at the Junos," said Burns. "I think things just build one on top of the other and we've been lucky that it's all kind of lined up."

Despite the newfound level of success, Burns retains some of the outlook on life he had when Rah Rah began. "When we started out the goal was just to go play a show," he said. "And I don't know if it's changed that much. You just try to make records that you're proud of."

The band heads out on a short Western Canadian tour at the end of the month, jet sets to Europe in the spring and is working on material for a follow-up to The Poet's Dead that should be complete by the end of the year.

Shia LaBeouf ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

LaBeouf, are you really #SORRY or is this piece just a pile of bull-Shia?

Shia LaBeouf is sorry. So sorry, in fact, that he's embarked on a "performance art" piece this week at a Los Angeles gallery space entitled #IAMSORRY. According to the gallery's press release, "Shia LaBeouf is sorry. Sincerely sorry. He will be in situ at 7354 Beverly Blvd. for the duration. Implements will be provided." Visitors are invited, one by one, to enter a curtained-off room where LaBeouf sits at a table in a tuxedo with a paper bag over his head, eye holes cut out. He says nothing, responds to no questions, and then removes the bag to show that he is crying. LaBeouf is scheduled to be staring at visitors and crying through Sunday. Fans of pointing out LaBeouf's penchant for plagiarism have been happy to remark on the similarities between this stunt and Marina Abramovic's 2010 installation piece The Artist is Present, during which she would sit in a gallery and let strangers stare at her one at a time, eventually bursting into tears.

Lip-synch claims hitting Britney one more time

Britney Spears

Britney Spears is being dogged by more lip-syncing accusations after an Instagram video surfaced taken during her current Las Vegas residency that shows her microphone pack fly off her waistband, pulling her earpiece mic away from her mouth without effecting her vocal performance at all. It wouldn't be such a big deal if it weren't for claims made by Spears' team before the launch of the residency. "Britney Spears will be singing live during her show. She will not be 'lip-syncing,'" her rep said.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Will $75M deal bring sizzle back to celeb cook's career?

Paula Deen has found a key ingredient to reheating her tarnished brand — a cash infusion worth at least $75 million US from a private investment firm.

The Savannah-based celebrity cook announced Wednesday that she's launched an umbrella company that will oversee her restaurants, cookbooks, product endorsements and other remaining slices of her media empire. The new company, called Paula Deen Ventures, said private-equity firm Najafi Companies is investing $75 million to $100 million to help Deen make a comeback.

Deen's fortunes took a dive last year after comments she made under oath during proceedings in a lawsuit, namely that she had used racial slurs in the past, became public. The Food Network dropped Deen, as did pork producer Smithfield Foods, book publisher Ballantine and several other companies that paid her to endorse their products.

In a statement, Deen praised the partnership with Phoenix-based Najafi and the decision to name Steven Nanula, who has already worked with Deen for the past two years, to serve as CEO of Paula Deen Ventures.

"I know this is the right decision to lead my team, as we continue to share quality products with my fans — whose love and support have built my brands," Deen said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eva Mendes

Eva X-es out rumours that she's with child after airport opt-out

Eva Mendes knows the consequences of being picky about security. The actress recently opted out of using a walk-in body scanner at the airport, prompting speculation that she's pregnant. "You know those X-ray scanners, which are really creepy? They basically see you naked," she tells Ellen DeGeneres during an interview. "And not only that, but there's a radiation aspect to it. So I always opt out. I always ask for a personal pat-down. That was good enough reason (for people to assume I'm pregnant.)" Sure, but what about those breakup rumours circulating since she and Ryan Gosling haven't been spotted together since October? While Mendes' publicist was already quick to shoot down such reports, Mendes offers some jokey plans for Valentine's Day that pointedly do not include Gosling — at least not in person: "I'm not a big Valentine's Day person," she says. "I'll probably just order a deep dish and watch The Notebook or something. Just cry, weep."

Twitter

@EllenBarkin
Do you think I could be the "global ambassador" for Lay's potato chips?

@ActuallyNPH
I'm so proud of @RealHughJackman for hosting this year's Tony Awards and for calling me an hour ago to say, 'Suck it!'

@SarahKSilverman
Doing a kickstarter to raise $ for rich kids who have never heard the word no. Please help!

LIFE 3

Guess what's coming to Danielle

Who's that girl?
Canada's Danielle Knudson only told her family and a handful of close friends that she'd booked the campaign of a lifetime. I Guess everyone else is about to find out.

ELIZABETH BEDDALL
elizabeth.beddall
@metronews.ca

When I meet up with Guess' new it-girl Danielle Knudson, she's surrounded by loose copies of her new ad campaign for the iconic brand. The spread features photos of the blonde bombshell frolicking in the late-afternoon Laguna Beach sunlight.

These images are in stark contrast to the surrounding polar-vortexed environment of our chat, which has left Danielle and I both sweater-bundled as we get warm inside the confines of the Guess boutique in Toronto's Queen West neighbourhood.

But while my pasty face and salt-stained boots give me away as a winter-whipped local, you'd think this new Guess girl, with her sunkissed skin and golden locks, was born and raised along the southern California shoreline. But make no mistake about it, she's Canadian.

Danielle Knudson says her next goal as a model is to be featured on the cover of Sports Illustrated. We'd sign off on that!
HANDOUT

You're now living the model's dream life in New York, but you were born and raised in Alberta. Is there anything you miss about home?
I loved growing up in Red Deer — I was there right until I was 18. And my family now lives just outside of Banff. Going home, I still love going home to see the mountains. We have a ski hill in Red Deer that no one knows about called Canyon Ski Area, which is kind of hidden in the middle of nowhere. I spent many years growing up there skiing.

The story of your rise to fame is an insanely quick one. As I understand you were at a shoot for another client and were asked to take a selfie, which was forwarded to Guess LA. Guess booked you that day, flew you out to LA that night and began shooting with you the next day. Correct?
Yes, about six months ago I got booked for the look book. Paul Marciano came to the shoot and met me and the agency called me and they put me on hold for everything and the rest is kind of history. It was like boom, boom, boom.

Tell me a little bit about the day of the Laguna Beach shoot. What was the general itinerary?
The campaign was actually shot over three days. We woke up very early because the lighting was beautiful in the morning — maybe 5:30. It went by so quickly. We would do hair and makeup and go to location, and shoot so many looks. We'd shoot until the sun went down.

Paul Marciano was on set with you at this shoot as well. What's he like?
Paul has been so amazing — he's been so supportive of me. Always told me to be myself. He just made me feel like I'm important to the brand — that they wanted me there.

Flash forward a year from today. What do you foresee?
My life is changing very quickly — I'm taking everything in as it's coming my way.

She's got this in the bag

Purell on-the-go hand sanitizer
$1.79, purell.com

L'Oréal Paris Colour Riche Balm
$7.96, walmart.ca

Benefit's High Beam luminescent complexion enhancer.
$32, sephora.com

Tabasco Sauce Miniature
$0.55, tabasco.com
"I put hot sauce on everything I eat."

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Name: Ailyn

Age: 19

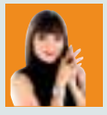
Occupation: Film student

What she's wearing
Blundstone boots, thrift store denim jeans, winter cape from the ROM's boutique, lace shirt from Club Monaco, and Fjallraven Kanken backpack.

Her inspiration
"Normally I go vintage, stuff you'd find in your grandma's closet. I'm a kid stuck in the '90s. This outfit, however, is my winter hipster look."

THE KIT IS A MULTI-PLATFORM BEAUTY AND FASHION BRAND WHICH INCLUDES AN INTERACTIVE MAGAZINE AND DYNAMIC APP, A WEBSITE, KIT CHAT — AN E-NEWSLETTER PROGRAM — AND A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER SECTION TOO!

Twitter



JEANNE SPACE
Jeanne Beker
life@metronews.ca

TWITTER HAS BECOME A COOL AND SUCCINCT WAY OF COMMUNICATING. IT ALLOWS ME TO BE ACCESSIBLE, INSTANTLY SPEAK MY MIND AND CONNECTS ME WITH ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE. WHETHER IT'S A FASHION QUESTION OR YOU JUST WANT TO COMMENT ON LIFE'S BIGGER PICTURE, I'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

@MrRalphRucci is a genius. Staff are artisans!"@womens weardaily: Rucci's seamstresses watch show from atelier. #NYFW

Guess who???? #MtTremblant #WeAreWinter #FreakinFreezing

Fall for a gluten-free delicacy

Cookbook of the Week

Bringing the sexy back to chocolate

The pros in the Canadian Living Test Kitchen have collected their best chocolate recipes in their book The Complete Chocolate Book.

Chapters focus on the varied, wonderful textures of chocolate treats. Craving an ooey-gooey caramel-topped cake? A dark, chewy brownie? A crispy, crunchy cookie? This book has you covered for all that and more. **METRO**

Sweet Week. These Flourless Chocolate Lava Cakes are perfect for any Valentine

1. In heatproof bowl over hot (not boiling) water, melt chocolate with butter, stirring until smooth. Stir in vanilla seeds. Remove from heat.

2. Whisk in sugar. Whisk in eggs and egg yolks, 1 at a time. Whisk in cocoa powder and salt.

3. Pour into twelve 3/4-cup (175 ml) ramekins; place on rimmed baking sheet. (Make-ahead: Cover and refrigerate for up to 24 hours. Bake as directed, adding 5 minutes to baking time.)

4. Bake in 425 F (220 C) oven until edges are set and centres are slightly jiggly when lightly tapped, about 15 minutes. Let cool on pan on rack for 3 minutes. Run knife around edges and turn out onto plates. Garnish with strawberries, and whipped cream (if using).

RECIPES EXCERPTED FROM CANADIAN LIVING: THE COMPLETE CHOCOLATE BOOK. COPYRIGHT © TRANSCONTINENTAL BOOKS, 2013. EXCERPTED BY PERMISSION OF TRANSCONTINENTAL BOOKS. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. NO PART OF THIS EXCERPT MAY BE REPRODUCED OR REPRINTED WITHOUT PERMISSION IN WRITING FROM THE PUBLISHER.

Ingredients

- 12 oz (340 g) bittersweet chocolate or semisweet chocolate, chopped
- 1/2 cup butter, cubed
- Seeds of 1 vanilla pod
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 6 eggs
- 6 egg yolks
- 1/4 cup cocoa powder, sifted
- Pinch salt
- 12 oz (340 g) strawberries, hulled and diced
- Whipped cream (optional)

This recipe serves 12. JEFF COULSON

Snack. Matzo Chocolate Almond Buttercrunch

This recipe makes 16 pieces. YVONNE DUIVENVOORDEN

Ingredients

- 4 1/2 sheets unsalted matzos
- 1 cup butter
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 1/4 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- 1/2 cup chopped toasted natural almonds
- Pinch sea salt or kosher salt

"Matzo is usually a side with a meal or a base for savoury dishes," write the the Canadian Living Test Kitchen pros in their book The Complete Chocolate Book. "Here, it's a confection."

1. Lay matzos on foil-lined rimmed baking sheet, breaking to cover sheet completely. Set aside.

2. In saucepan, bring butter and brown sugar to boil over medium-high heat; boil until slightly thickened, 2 to 3 minutes. Pour over matzos, spreading evenly with offset spatula.

3. Bake in 325 F (160 C) oven until bubbly and golden, about 7 minutes. Let cool 5 minutes.

4. Sprinkle with chocolate chips; let stand until melted, about 2 minutes. Using offset spatula, spread chocolate over matzos.

5. Sprinkle with almonds and salt. Refrigerate until chocolate is firm, about 1 hour. Break into shards.

Fall in love with these sweet ideas

ASTRID VAN DEN BROEK
For Metro

Fantastic. How exactly did Valentine's Day sneak up on you? If you forgot to plan for Friday, let Deanna Lorraine help you out. This San Diego-based dating coach shares her best ideas for couples of all stages.

There are a number of ways you can impress your significant other this Valentine's Day. LUMINAIMAGES/SHUTTERSTOCK

If you have just started dating

"Surprise her with a big bouquet at her work," Lorraine said. Or amaze your new beau with your gourmet side. "Take them to your place for candles, music and a gourmet meal you've prepared."

If you have been together a long time

"Plan a last-minute overnight trip to somewhere within driving distance or a quick flight away," Lorraine said. Have a look at travel websites to score last-minute flight and hotel deals.

Or surprise your partner with your thoughtfulness. "Pick up tickets to a concert or play they're interested in."

If you are single

Google can turn up many singles events happening on Valentine's Day.

"Or create a singles event — throw an anti-Valentine's singles party," Lorraine said. "And tell everyone to invite any single person they know."

Or how about taking a trip?

"Plan a trip with a friend who's single — a road trip or getaway for the weekend like New York or Vegas. So something you can look forward to together. Make it an excuse to get out of town and away from all the couples."

If you are on a budget

Create couple coupons. "Make a book of coupons to redeem for a massage or a night of me cooking dinner for you," Lorraine said.

Or get scrapbooking. "Make either a physical or online book. There's some great cheap or free software online such as Animoto that you can put together video clips and pictures with music."

If you have a family

Do the kids like to celebrate with mom and dad?

"Create a big dinner and have everyone help cook—and also cook something you normally wouldn't," Lorraine said. "Have everyone dress up, too."

But it's important parents get some time together, too, she added.

"So after the kids are in bed, have a secret date in your master bedroom with a decadent dessert."

Kory Sheets

Grey Cup MVP signs with Raiders

The Saskatchewan Roughriders have lost another key component of their potent offence to a retooling National Football League team.

Star tailback and Grey Cup MVP Kory Sheets has signed with the Oakland Raiders, the team confirmed Wednesday on Twitter.

Sheets is the second Riders star to leave this offseason for a chance to crack an NFL roster, following receiver Weston Dressler's departure to sign with the Kansas City Chiefs.

The signing comes as no surprise to keen CFL observers, as both Sheets and Dressler made it clear shortly following the Riders' Grey Cup triumph in November that they had their eyes set on the NFL.

METRO

CFL

Riders host Ticats to start season

The Grey Cup defence will begin against some angry felines.

The CFL unveiled its 2014 schedule Wednesday and the Saskatchewan Roughriders will open the regular season as hosts to the Hamilton Tiger-Cats in a Grey Cup rematch June 29.

Meanwhile, the regular season will kick off days before that with the Toronto Argonauts visiting the Winnipeg Blue Bombers on June 26.

The expansion Ottawa Redblacks will play their first-ever regular-season game in Winnipeg against the Blue Bombers on July 3.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kootenay Ice defenceman Landon Cross tangles with Regina Pats forward Patrick D'Amico in the first period of Western Hockey League action Wednesday night at the Brandt Centre. The Pats won 3-2. MARCO VIGLIOTTI/METRO

Pats lock down NHL prospect in victory

WHL. Newly acquired goalie Daniel Wapple makes 29 saves versus Reinhart-led Kootenay

MARCO VIGLIOTTI
marco.vigliotti@metronews.ca

On Wednesday

Pats	Ice
3	2

In a game featuring one of junior hockey's most talked about prospects, it was a solid team performance that stole the show.

The Regina Pats grabbed an early lead and weathered a strong counter press to squeeze out the Sam Reinhart-led Kootenay Ice 3-2 Wednesday night at the Brandt Centre.

The Pats (29-22-5) got goals from three different players and relied on timely goalkeeping from new acquisition Daniel Wapple to claw within three points of their eastern B.C. rivals for fifth place in the ultra-competitive Eastern Conference.

Dyson Stevenson's second period tally held out to be the game winner, with neither team able to find the back of the net in an exciting, evenly played third period.

Connor Gay and Braden Christoffer supplied the other two Pats goals, while five different players picked up assists for the host squad.

Jagger Dirk and Luke Philp scored for Kootenay.

Reinhart, who comes highly touted as a serious contender to be the first overall selection in this summer's NHL entry draft, had a relatively quiet night in the Queen City and only managed to pick up an assist for the visiting Ice (31-22-4).

Wapple had 29 saves for the hosts, while Mackenzie Skapski made 26 stops in a losing cause.

The Pats are now off to northern Saskatchewan for a Valentine's Day date with the slumping Prince Albert Raiders.

Puck drop is scheduled for 7 p.m. CST

Skater's sacrifice sets up Morrison's silver

Silver medallist Denny Morrison celebrates after competing in the 1,000-metre speedskating event in Sochi, Wednesday. MATT DUNHAM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Long-track speedskater Denny Morrison skated his way to a silver medal in the men's 1,000 metres at the Sochi Olympics.

The native of Fort St. John, B.C., finished in one minute 8.43 seconds, just four one-hundredths of a second behind winner Stefan Groothuis of the Netherlands.

Michel Mulder, also of the powerful Dutch team, finished third.

It's Canada's first long-track medal of the Games, and the first individual Olympic medal for Morrison.

Reppin' Regina

Regina's William Dutton posted a time of one minute 10.61 seconds to finish 26th in the 1,000 metres.

Morrison wasn't even supposed to compete in the 1,000.

But teammate Gilmore Junio gave his spot to Morrison because he knew Morrison was the team's best skater.

"It's been a really tough season," Morrison said. "I have been struggling with injury. I just want to thank all the team for their support. Especially (Junio). He gave up his place for me and I would never have a medal without him.

"After what he did, it made it even more special. Giving up your spot is unprecedented. I feel like getting my medal and cutting (it) in half because he deserves it."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Natalie Spooner jumps on top of Meghan Agosta-Marciano of Team Canada after she scored the winning goal in the third period of Wednesday's victory over the United States in Sochi, Russia. JULIO CORTEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada wins first battle against U.S.

Women's hockey.
Agosta-Marciano's two goals lifts spirits of defending champions

Preliminary Round

Canada	United States
3	2

A 3-2 win over the archrival United States was a big boost to Canada's confidence, but history shows Wednesday's result won't mean much if the two women's hockey powers face off for Olympic gold.

But after dropping four straight exhibition games to the Americans before their arrival in Sochi, the Canadian women could feel good about themselves heading into a four-day break before Monday's semifinal.

Canada and the U.S. already had berths in Monday's semifinals locked down before their game.

Trailing 1-0 after two periods, Meghan Agosta-Marciano of Ruthven, Ont., scored a pair of goals and had an assist for the defending champions on her 27th birthday.

Linemate Hayley Wickenheiser of Shaunavon, Sask., who was Canada's flag-bearer in the opening ceremonies, scored a controversial goal and assisted on Agosta-Marciano's equalizer.

Charline Labonté of Boisbriand, Que., stopped 25 of 27 shots for the win and stoned Kelli Stack on a short-handed breakaway in the second period. Coach Kevin Dineen's choice to put Labonte in goal was intriguing because Shannon Szabados has started in all world championship finals for Canada since her shutout of the Americans in the 2010 Olympic final. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alpine skiing

Maze, Gisin race to first ever tie

Slovenia's Tina Maze and Switzerland's Dominique Gisin took different paths on an Olympic downhill course filled with flats and turns, jumps and bumps.

Add it all up, and they were each other's equal Wednesday. Gisin finished in 1 minute, 41.57 seconds. Maze finished in 1 minute, 41.57 seconds. A tie. And so two gold medals were awarded, the first time that's happened in 78 years of Olympic alpine skiing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEDALS

Nation	G	S	B	Tot.
Norway	4	3	5	12
Canada	**4**	**4**	**2**	**10**
Netherlands	4	2	4	10
United States of America	3	1	5	9
Russian Federation	2	4	3	9
Germany	6	1	1	8
Austria	1	4	0	5
Switzerland	3	0	1	4
Slovenia	1	1	2	4
Sweden	0	3	1	4

WHAT CANADA DID

WEDNESDAY

ALPINE SKIING

Women's Downhill - Larisa Yurkiw, Owen Sound, Ont., 20th, (one minute 43.46 seconds, +1.89 seconds)

CURLING

Women's Round Robin Session 4 - Canada 9 Britain 6 (Standings: Canada 3-0, T-1st)

Men's Round Robin Session 5 - Canada 7 Russia 4 (Standings: Canada 2-2, T-5th)

FIGURE SKATING

Pairs Free Program - Kirsten Moore-Towers (St. Catharines, Ont.) and Dylan Moscovitch (Toronto), 5th, (131.18); Meagan Duhamel (Lively, Ont.) and Eric Radford (Balmertown, Ont.), 7th, (127.32); Paige Lawrence (Kennedy, Sask.) and Rudi Swiegers (Kipling, Sask.), 14th, (103.01).

Final Pairs Ranking: Kirsten Moore-Towers and Dylan Moscovitch, 5th, (202.10); Meagan Duhamel and Eric Radford, 7th, (199.53); Paige Lawrence and Rudi Swiegers, 14th, (161.98).

ICE HOCKEY

Women's Preliminary Round - Group A - Canada 3 United States 2 (Standings: Canada 3-0, 1st)

LUGE

Doubles Run 1 - Tristan Walker (Cochrane, Alta.) and Justin Snith (Calgary), 4th, (49.857 seconds, +0.484 of a second)

Doubles Run 2 - Tristan Walker and Justin Snith, 6th, (49.983 seconds, +0.423 of a second)

Doubles Final Ranking: Tristan Walker and Justin Snith, 4th, (one minute 39.840 seconds, +0.907 of a second)

SNOWBOARD

Ladies' Halfpipe Qualification - Heat 1: x-Alexandra Duckworth, Kingsburg, N.S., 7th, (69.75); **Heat 2:** x-Katie Tsuyuki, Toronto, 9th, (54.25); Mercedes Nicoll, Whistler, B.C., 12th , (43.50).

x- qualified for semifinals

Ladies' Halfpipe Semifinals - Katie Tsuyuki, 7th, (56.25); Alexandra Duckworth, 11th, (32.50).

Ladies' Halfpipe Final Ranking: Katie Tsuyuki, 13th; Alexandra Duckworth, 17th; Mercedes Nicoll, 25th.

SPEED SKATING

Men's 1000m - Denny Morrison, Fort St. John, B.C., **Silver Medal**, (one minute 8.43 seconds, +0.04 of a second); Vincent De Haitre, Cumberland, Ont., 20th, (1:10.04); William Dutton, Humboldt, Sask., 26th, (1:10.61); Muncef Ouardi, Quebec City, 32nd, (1:11.07).

HOCKEY

PRELIMINARY ROUND

All times Eastern

MEN

Wednesday's results

Sweden 4 Czech Republic 2
Switzerland 1 Latvia 0

Thursday's games

Finland at Austria, 3 a.m.
Russia at Slovenia, 7:30 a.m.
Slovakia at United States, 7:30 a.m.
Canada at Norway, 12 p.m.

WOMEN

Group A

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	Pts
Canada	**3**	**3**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**11**	**2**	**9**
United States	3	2	0	0	1	14	4	6
Finland	3	0	1	0	2	5	9	2
Switzerland	3	0	0	1	2	3	18	1

Group B

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	Pts
Sweden	2	2	0	0	0	5	0	6
Russia	2	2	0	0	0	6	2	6
Japan	2	0	0	0	2	1	3	0
Germany	2	0	0	0	2	1	8	0

Note: Three points awarded for a regulation win, two for an overtime/shootout win and one for an overtime/shootout loss.

Wednesday's results

Finland 4 Switzerland 3 (OT)
Canada 3 United States 2

Tuesday's results

Sweden 4 Germany 0
Russia 2 Japan 1

Thursday's games

Japan at Germany, 3 a.m.
Sweden at Russia, 12 p.m.

CANADA 3, UNITED STATES 2

First Period — No Scoring.

Penalties — Lamoureux U.S. (tripping) 4:37, Ouellette Cda (holding) 10:59, Decker U.S. (Body Checking Minor) 17:47.

Second Period

1. United States, Knight 3 (Carpenter, Schleper) 37:34 (pp).

Penalties — Duggan U.S. (interference) 32:27, Johnston Cda (roughing) 32:52, Rougeau Cda (Body Checking Minor) 36:57.

Third Period

2. Canada, Agosta-Marciano 2 (Wickenheiser) 42:21 (pp).
3. Canada, Wickenheiser 2 (Spooner, Agosta-Marciano) 43:54.
4. Canada, Agosta-Marciano 3 (unassisted) 54:55.
5. United States, Schleper 1 (Decker, Lamoureux) 58:55.

Penalties — Decker U.S. (tripping) 40:53, Pucci U.S. (hooking) 51:59.

Shots

Canada	8	11	12—31
United States	11	13	3—27

Goal — Canada: Labonte (W); United States: Vetter (L). **Power plays (goal-chances)** — Canada: 1-5; United States: 1-4.

Attendance — 4,812 at Sochi, Russia.

CURLING

All Times Eastern

MEN

Wednesday's results

Canada 7 Russia 4
United States 9 Denmark 5
Norway 8 Germany 5
China 5 Switzerland 4
China 11 Germany 7
Britain 4 Switzerland 2
Denmark 8 Sweden 5

Thursday's games

Switzerland vs. Russia, 5 a.m.
Canada vs. Denmark, 5 a.m.
Norway vs. Sweden, 5 a.m.
Britain vs. United States, 5 a.m.

WOMEN

Wednesday's results

Canada 9 Britain 6
Japan 8 Russia 4
China 7 United States 4
Sweden 7 South Korea 4

Thursday's games

Canada vs. Denmark, 12 a.m.
China vs. Britain, 12 a.m.
Switzerland vs. Sweden, 12 a.m.
Sweden vs. Denmark, 10 a.m.
Russia vs. South Korea, 10 a.m.
Switzerland vs. **Canada**, 10 a.m.
Japan vs. United States, 10 a.m.

It's not just a medal. It's a way of life.
Go Canada Go
Gillette
THE BEST A MAN CAN GET
© 2014 The Gillette Company
Gillette proudly supports John Tavares, Team Canada Forward
P&G
WORLDWIDE PARTNER
PARTENAIRE MONDIAL

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You need to be a bit more mysterious, especially on the work front. Keep both colleagues and rivals at arm's length and don't forget that knowledge is power.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
If you say one thing but do another, you leave yourself open to charges of hypocrisy. You don't need to cut corners or bend the truth. You have so much going for you that you will still come out ahead.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
As your ruler, Mercury, continues its retrograde phase, you need to be on your guard. It's likely that someone will try to cheat you in some way. But now that you know that, it won't be so easy.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Your mind may be working fast and you may have come to conclusions that satisfy you but are you sure they're correct? Listen to your inner voice and act on what it tells you, even if you don't understand it.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
One of your secrets could be dangerous if others get to know about it. Make sure you don't say anything today that might give your opponents a clue what you've been up to.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
It's important that you are honest about your feelings. If you keep them to yourself, negative emotions may build up to the point where an outburst of some sort is more likely than not.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Be careful what you say over the next few days because certain people won't take kindly to you making light of things that they take seriously.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
There is still time to make your feelings known. But if you leave it too late in the day, the opportunity will slip by and it won't come again for quite a while. Don't worry that you might be rejected.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You'll get more done if you take a gentler approach to partnership matters. Put yourself in their shoes and imagine how you'd feel if someone talked to you the way you talk to them at times.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You may want to be open but with communications planet Mercury now moving retrograde, you would be wise not to give too much away. Anyone asking personal questions is not to be trusted.

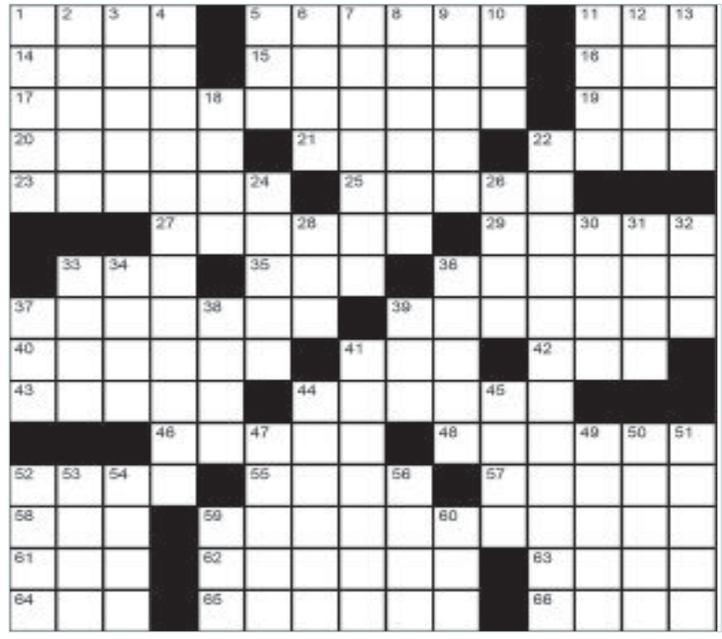
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
If you need to make some extra money then you will have to go into partnership with someone who shares your ambitions. You will also need to have a contract that commits you both.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You may not be as ambitious as some but you have no end of dreams you would like to see come true. One dream has your attention now, but is it a realistic dream or is it a fantasy dream? SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

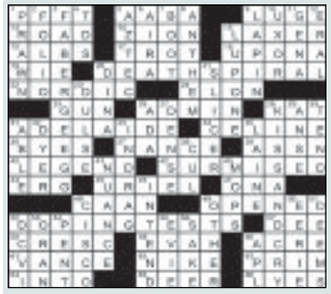
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Very, in Versailles
5. Lightly blots: 2 wds.
11. Stir
14. Retro-style pop syllable
15. "Game of Thrones" actress Ms. Clarke
16. Cut back
17 "Roxy Roller" band from Vancouver: 2 wds.
19. Litigate
20. France's capital, colloquially
21. __ Brasi, "The Godfather" (1972) enforcer
22. Cob's stuff
23. "Man of Steel" (2013) director, Zack __
25. Lord's house
27. Swiped
29.Jabbed
33. 'Neat' suffix
35. Food container
36. U2 tune
37. Anastasia's family, House of __
39. Historic theatre in Russia
40. Sam Worthington movie
41. Oz musical, The __
42. Initials-sharers of Miranda's portrayer on "Sex and the City"
43. "__ __, with Love" (1967)
44. Roman orator
46. Man-made material
48. Wanting to throw up feeling
52. SOCHI 2014 - One of the Olympic symbol's five
55. Banff National Park animals
57. Trims
58. Fabric belt
59. Robin Thicke's actress wife: 2 wds.
61. Guys
62. Actor, Haley Joel __
63. Rihanna's "__ Boy"
64. Lumberjack's tool
65. Styles
66. River of Flanders

Down
1. Chef's li'l amounts
2. "Laugh-In" co-host Dan
3. Manicurist's board
4. SOCHI 2014 - Winter Olympics sport: 2 wds.
5. Billy Williams link
6. __ acetate (Banana oil)
7. Tar-like deposit found in Alberta's oil sands
8. BC's __ Valley
9. Mr. Quinn
10. Bit
11. Too
12. Glum
13. Airy
18. Old depilatory brand
22. SOCHI 2014 - Winter Olympics sport
24. Revolving mechanism
26. German-built car
28. Ms. Tyler
30. "Jeopardy": 1983 hit for The Greg __ Band
31. Greek Myth: God of love
32. Agnus __ (Mass prayer)
33. De __ (Again, in Latin)
34. "Misty" line: "Look at me / __ __ helpless as a kitten up a tree..."
36. Bakery quantity
37. Rodent
38. __ a soul
39. Pen brand
41. City in southern Manitoba's Pembina Valley
44. Structure support in architecture
45. Tabula __ (Clean slate)
47. Rent
49. Position, fancy-style
50. Lyric poem variety
51. Lou Grant's portrayer Ed
52. Tomato type
53. Wild goat
54. Ten - One = This
56. Rational
59. 1990s fad game disc
60. Liq. measures

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

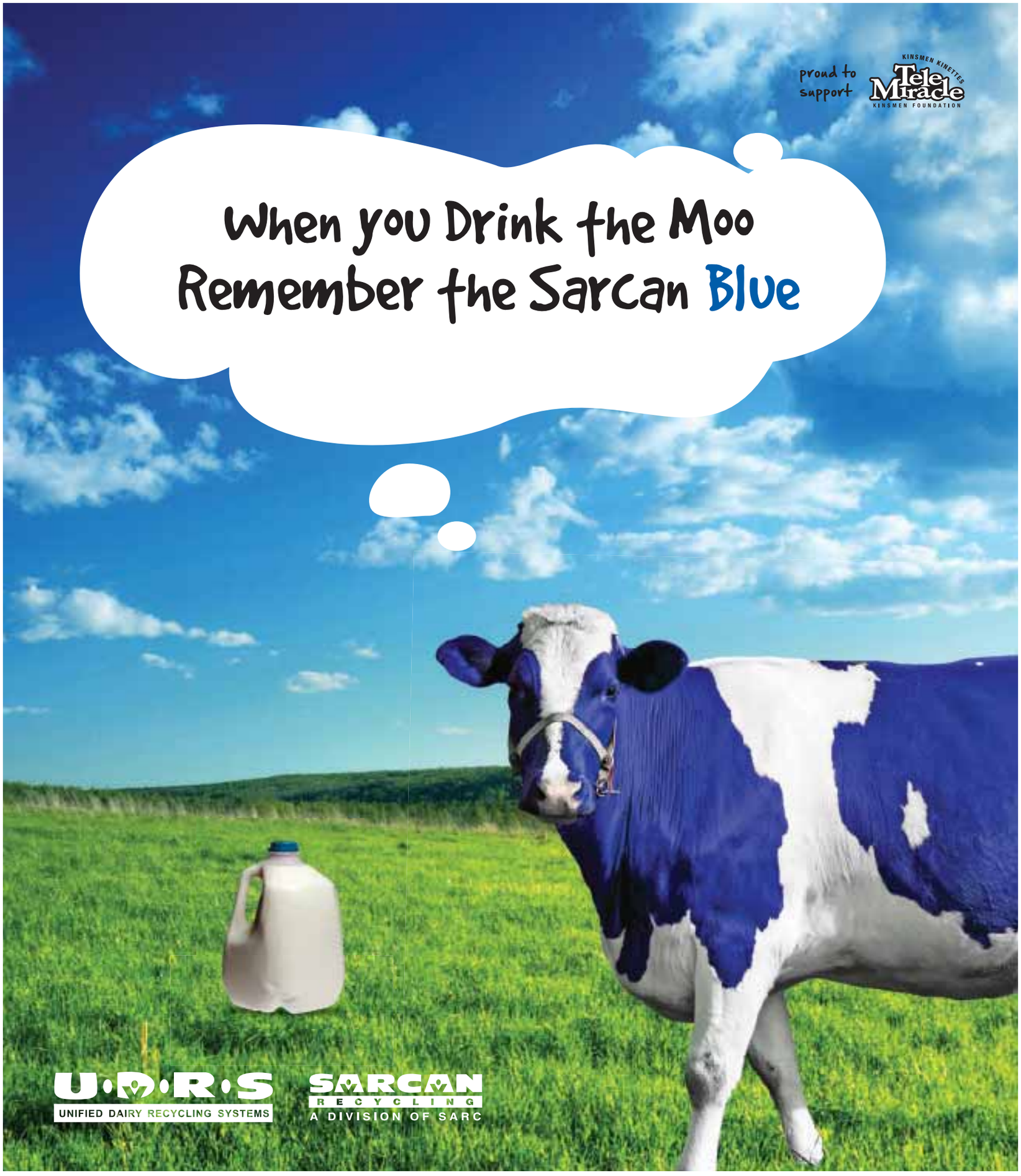
How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

3	2						6	9
		6	5			7		
4			9		1			
9				5		4	8	
				1				
	6	2		8				1
			2		7			5
		9			5	3		
5	8						2	4

Yesterday's Sudoku

5	3	9	8	7	4	6	1	2
1	8	2	5	3	6	7	9	4
7	4	6	2	9	1	5	3	8
9	1	8	4	5	7	2	6	3
2	5	7	1	6	3	8	4	9
4	6	3	9	8	2	1	7	5
3	9	1	6	2	8	4	5	7
8	7	4	3	1	5	9	2	6
6	2	5	7	4	9	3	8	1

Today
-13°/-19°
Partly sunny
Friday
-10°/-11°
Variable
Your #1 weather forecast now available in HD.
HD
TWN incorporates MSC data


proud to support
KINSMEN KINETTES
Tele Miracle
KINSMEN FOUNDATION
When you Drink the Moo
Remember the Sarcan Blue
U·D·R·S
UNIFIED DAIRY RECYCLING SYSTEMS
SARCAN
RECYCLING
A DIVISION OF SARC